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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Extension Service
Office of Exhibits

A Summary of the Exhibit

DAIRY CALF CLUBS

A booth exhibit showing the essentials in raising the dairy heifer; and how a club boy and his calf put a farm on a business basis.

Specifications

Floor space - - - - - 13 ft. front, 8 ft.
Wall space - - - - - None. (deep.)
Shipping weight - - - - 500 lbs.
Electrical Requirements - None.

DAIRY CALF CLUBS

How It Looks

Standing on the floor, in the middle of the booth, is a small, life-like cut-out of a boy and a calf. A placard, by the side of the calf, tells the story of how this boy bettered conditions on his father's farm.

The booth is devoted to facts of interest regarding the dairy heifer. The left section is entitled "Feed Liberally" and is illustrated by two enlarged colored photographs, one showing summer feeding practices and the other one winter feeding practices.

The middle section shows two large pictures, and in the short, terse text are six sound rules or essentials for raising the dairy heifer. The right section is entitled "Breed at proper time" and shows two pictures and text relating to breeding and stabling the dairy heifer.

The booth is 13 feet across the front, 8 feet deep and 7 feet high.

What It Tells

The interest in this exhibit centers largely around the statement "THIS CLUB BOY AND HIS CALF PUT A FARM ON A PAYING BASIS," which appears in large letters on the placard in connection with the cut-out of a boy and a calf. Five years ago this boy started with a scrub calf which was ranked fourteenth that year among 18 calves owned by members of his local calf club.

The next year he borrowed \$125 and bought a purebred calf which won first place in a class of 54 calves. He also won many other honors. The next year he bought a purebred cow, and now he is manager of the home farm, has a good herd of purebred Holstein cows, and a new dairy barn. His family is now "sold" on farming as a business proposition.

Neither of the calves, the scrub or the purebred, actually made enough money for the boy to start him in the business of farming; they did serve, however, as the means for allowing the boy to try out the various essential methods of feeding and care that taught him

how to manage and ultimately succeed with a herd of pure-bred dairy cows.

Some of the important essentials of successful management of the dairy heifer are given in text and illustrated by pictures on the sections of the booth. For instance, good pasture will furnish sufficient feed during the summer, but in the winter one should feed all of the good-quality legume hay and silage the heifer will eat, and from 2 to 5 pounds of grain, depending on age, size and condition. Select a heifer from the best cow, and a good bull. Feed liberally - don't let her get stunted, watch the winter ration and keep her growing. Breed the dairy heifer when from 17 to 19 months old, depending on breed and size. And finally, remember that it is very essential to house the dairy herd in a clean, comfortable, and well-lighted stable. These simple rules and suggestions are shown in this exhibit and should be of interest to every club member.

Where to Get Information

Write to the Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

